



House Education Newsletter

January 2006

2006 Legislative Session: Week 2 in Review

For complete information on the actions of the House of Representatives, please visit our website. You can also view the schedule of committee meetings, hearings and other events. The House will reconvene on Tuesday, January 30th at 10:00.

Once again, your State Representatives wasted no time getting right down to business here at the Capitol. In quite a whirlwind week, much was accomplished!

On Tuesday, the 7th Legislative Day of Session, House Bill 973 was passed on the House Floor. This piece of legislation makes the use of speed detection devices permissible in properly marked school zones one hour before, during and after normal school hours of operation, despite the road grade. Its intent is to ensure that all persons in violation of the speed limit during those designated hours are addressed on the same level, despite whether or not they may be traveling down hill.

A tribute to the memory of former President Ronald Reagan passed the House Floor in the form of HB 713. Bill sponsors thought it only fitting to make the late President's birth-

day, February 6th, an annual day of recognition for his service and achievements to our country.



As you may have read in the previous newsletter and seen in various newspapers, Senate Bill 84 was taken up again this week by both Chambers. On Wednesday, House Members agreed to the Senate Amended version of the bill, which now awaits signing by Governor Perdue. This legislation

provides for a free "Voter Identification Card" to be issued to individuals wishing to vote that do not have another form of photo ID. Further, it requires each of Georgia's 159 counties to have at least 1 place to issue these cards. The amendment attached to the bill requires that said persons prove that they are registered to vote in Georgia.





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A Page's View

Robyn Munro served as a PAGE on Wednesday, January 25th, for Representative Joe Heckstall. Robyn is from Clayton County and attends Our Lady Of Mercy. "I think this is a great experience, I like it a lot! Its nice to see how they are voting and how they are coming across."

Robyn also got a special treat on her day serving the House of Representatives, Justin from American Idol treated the entire House Floor to a live performance of one of his new songs!

A Note from One of Our Interns

Since I've only been working as an intern through nine legislative days so far, I'm still getting a feel for how everything works. My first several days were mostly spent learning my way around, and finding places still occasionally proves to be a challenge. The rest of the job, however, proves to be significantly less difficult. So far, I have researched other states' legislation regarding issues which the committees I work for are currently considering, I have attended a few meetings, I have met all but one of the chairmen for whom I work, and of course, I've run my share of errands for both

Jesse and other people in Committee Services. I've discovered that out-of-session days are pretty slow, but on those days I tend to work on either committee research or research for the project that the intern program has mandated. For that project, I am looking into the basis for a civil liability clause in legislation regarding identity and information theft. Of course, I can't spend the entire day researching, so I also spend time keeping up with the news online and getting to know the other interns.



Hillary Lipko is a Georgia Tech Student currently working as an intern in the Committee Services Department. She assists with work on the Health & Human Services, Ethics, Science & Technology and Reapportionment Committees of the House.